Runder the Page Nork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to	Approve U.S. Patent and Trademark O. c	PTO/SB/29 (10-00) / se through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0032 re; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE			
CONTINUED PROSECUTION REQUEST TRAI Submit an original, and a duplicate (Only for Continuation or Divisional application)	N APPLICATION NSMITTAL ate for fee processing.	Se it displays a valid OMB control number. N (CPA) Cuito PCX. (*papplicable: DUPLICATE			
Assistant Commissioner for Patents Box CPA Washington, DC 20231 CPA REQUEST	Attorney Docket No. of Prior Application First Named Inventor Examiner Name Group Art Unit Express Mail Label No.	427600800004 Paul Metcalf Eric K. Nicholson 3627 EK522728205US			
This is a request for a continuation or divisional application under 37 CFR 1.53(d), (continued prosecution application (CPA)) of prior application number 09 / 228,845 filed on_January 12, 1999 , entitled_Coupling_Assembly_Having_Enhanced_Axial_Tension_Strength **NOTES** MATCH & RETURN FILING QUALIFICATIONS: The prior application identified above must be a nonprovisional application that is either: (1) complete as defined by 37 CFR 1.51(b), or (2) the national stage of an international application in compliance with 35 U.S.C. 371. Effective May 29, 2000. A CPA may only be filed in a utility or a plant application if the prior nonprovisional application was filed before May 29, 2000. A CPA may be filed in a design application regardless of the filing date of the prior application. See "Request for Continued Examination Practice changes to and Provisional Application Practice," Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1230 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office (Apr. 11, 2000). C-I-P NOT PERMITTED: A continuation-in-part application cannot be filed as a CPA under 37 CFR 1.53(d), but must be filed under 37 CFR 1.53(b). EXPRESS ABANDONMENT OF PRIOR APPLICATION: The filing of this CPA is a request to expressly abandon the prior application as of the filing date of the request for a CPA. 37 CFR 1.53(b) must be used to file a continuation, divisional, or continuation-in-part of an application that is not to be abandoned: ACCESS TO PRIOR APPLICATION: The filing of this CPA will be construed to include a waiver of confidentiality by the applicant under 35 U.S.C. 120 to the extent that any member of the public who is entitled under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.14 to access to, copies of, or information concerning, the prior application may be given similar access to, copies of, or similar information concerning, the prior application is needed in the first sentence of the specification and none should be submitted. If a sentence referencing the prior application is submitted, i					
a X PTO-1449	parate sheet attached	hereto. d. APR 2 4 2001			

[Page 1 of 2]

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.4 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box CPA, Washington, DC 20231.

b. X Copies of IDS Citations

0/10/

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					4 1 1	7
CLAIMS	(1) FOR	(2) NUMBER FILED	(3) NUMBER EXTRA	(4) RATE	(5) CALCULATIONS	
	TOTAL CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(c) or (j)) 14	-20* =	- 0 -	x \$ =	\$ - 0 -	
	INDEPENDENT CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(b) or (i)) 6	-3** =	3	x \$ <u>80.00</u> =	240.00	
	MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS (if applicable) (37 CFR 1.16(d)) + \$ =					
	BASIC FEE (37 CFR 1.16)			710.00		
			Total of a	bove Calculations =	950.00	
	Reduction by 50% for filing					
	* Reissue claims in excess ** Reissue independent clai		tent.	TOTAL =	950.00	
6. Small entity status: Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. 7. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to credit overpayments or charge the following fees to Deposit Account No Sold 1432: a. Fees required under 37 CFR 1.16.						
	ees required under 37 (APR 247	ZOUI
8. X A check in the amount of \$_950.00 is enclosed. 9. Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.						LROOM
10. App	licant requests suspens	ion of action under	37 CFR 1.103(b) for		months	
`	to exceed 3 months) an			ed.		
[P	Attorney Docket Numb Prior application Attorney Docket I	lumber will carryover to this	CPA <u>unless</u> a new Attorney L	 Docket Number has beer	n provided herein.]	
12. a. 🗌	Receipt For Facsimile	ransmitted CPA (P	TO/SB/29A)			
b. 🔀	Return Receipt Postcar	d (Should be specifically	y itemized, See MPEP 50	3)		
13. Other:						_
NOTE:	The prior application UNLESS a new corre		address will carry ove is provided below.	er to this CPA		
		14. NEW CORRESP	ONDENCE ADDRESS	3		Ī
X Cus	tomer Number or Bar Code Labe		1325	r New corre	espondence address below	
Name			RADEMARK OFFICE			
Address						
City		State		Zip Code		
Country		Telephone		Fax		_

15. SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED				
Name (Print /Type)	H. Duane Switzer			
Signature	H. Dugne Juizer			
Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	22431			
Date	April 17, 2001			

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TRANSMITTAL for FY 2001

Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT

(\$) 950.00

Со	mplete if Known
Application Number	09/228,845
Filing Date	January 12, 1999
First Named Inventor	Paul Metcalf
Examiner Name	Eric K. Nicholson
Group Art Unit	3627
Attorney Docket No.	427600800004

METHOD OF PAYMENT FEE CALCULATION (continued)					
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge	3. ADDITIONAL FEES				
1. X indicated fees and credit any overpayments to:	Large Small				
Deposit Account 501432	Entity Entity	E . D.14			
Number	Fee Fee Fee Fee Fee Description	Fee Paid			
Deposit Account Account Pogue Pogue	105 130 205 65 Surcharge - late filing fee or oath				
Charge Any Additional Fee Required	127 50 227 25 Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet				
— Chief of Crit 1:10 and 1:11	139 130 139 130 Non-English specification				
Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27	147 2,520 147 2,520 For filing a request for ex parte reexamination				
2. X Payment Enclosed:	112 920* 112 920* Requesting publication of SIR prior to				
X Check Credit card Money Other	Examiner action				
FEE CALCULATION	113 1,840* 113 1,840* Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action				
1. BASIC FILING FEE	115 110 215 55 Extension for reply within first month				
Large Entity Small Entity	116 390 216 195 Extension for reply within second month	 			
Fee Fee Fee Fee Description	117 890 217 445 Extension for reply within third month				
Code (4) Code (4)	118 1,390 218 695 Extension for reply within fourth month				
101 710 201 355 Utility filing fee 710	128 1,890 228 945 Extension for reply within fifth month				
107 490 207 245 Plant filing fee	119 310 219 155 Notice of Appeal				
108 710 208 355 Reissue filing fee	120 310 220 155 Filing a brief in support of an appeal				
114 150 214 75 Provisional filing fee	121 270 221 135 Request for oral hearing				
	138 1,510 138 1,510 Petition to institute a public use proceeding				
SUBTOTAL (1) (\$) 710	140 110 240 55 Pelition to revive - unavoidable	<u> </u>			
2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES	141 1,240 241 620 Petition to revive - unintentional				
Fee from Extra Claims below Fee Paid	142 1,240 242 620 Utility issue fee (or reissue)				
Total Claims 14 -20** = 0 X = 0	143 440 243 220 Design issue fee				
Independent 6 - 3** = 3 x 80 = 240	144 600 244 300 Plant issue fee				
Multiple Dependent = 240	122 130 122 130 Petitions to the Commissioner				
	123 50 123 50 Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(q)				
Large Entity Small Entity Fee Fee Fee Fee Description	126 180 126 180 Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt	<u> </u>			
Fee Fee Fee Fee Fee Description Code (\$) Code (\$) 103 18 203 9 Claims in excess of 20	581 40 581 40 Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)				
102 80 202 40 Independent claims in excess of 3	146 710 246 355 Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR § 1.129(a))				
104 270 204 135 Multiple dependent claim, if not paid 109 80 209 40 ** Reissue independent claims	149 710 249 355 For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR § 1.129(b))				
over original patent 110 18 210 9 ** Reissue claims in excess of 20	179 710 279 355 Request for Continued Examination (RCE)				
and over original patent	169 900 169 900 Request for expedited examination of a design application				
SUBTOTAL (2) (\$) 240	Other fee (specify)				
**or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above *Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid SUBTOTAL (3) (\$)					

Complete (if applicable) SUBMITTED BY Registration No. Telephone 221-6937 Name (Print/Type) 22431 H. Duane Switzer (Attorney/Agent) Signature

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